



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent )  
application of: ) Before the Examiner  
 ) Julian W. Woo  
Hallett H. Mathews )  
 )  
Serial No. 09/519,295 ) Group Art Unit 3731  
 )  
Filed March 6, 2000 ) Atty. Docket No. 4002-2270  
 )  
METHOD FOR SUBCUTANEOUS )  
SUPRAFASCIAL PEDICULAR ) July 30, 2004  
INTERNAL FIXATION )

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

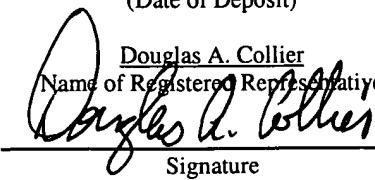
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Allowance dated April 30, please enter the following remarks. Please provide any extensions of time and charge any fees due to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include payment of issue fees.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

July 30, 2004  
(Date of Deposit)

  
Douglas A. Collier  
Name of Registered Representative  
Signature

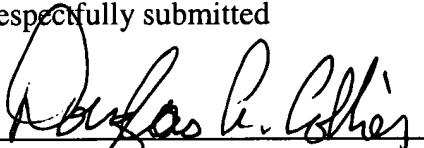
July 30, 2004  
Date of Signature

REMARKS

Applicants hereby acknowledge that pending claims 23-46 of the above-referenced application have now been allowed. Applicants also acknowledge receipt of the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance. Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.109, Applicant hereby makes of record the following comments to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

The Examiner's comments do not focus upon any particular elements or limitations of the claims over any other elements or claim limitations. Applicants interpret the Examiner's comments to mean that the invention resides in the combination of elements as variously recited in each of the claims, and not in the presence of any one or a few particular elements or limitations in any one of the claims. Entry of these Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted

By:   
Douglas A. Collier  
Reg. No. 43,556  
Woodard, Emhardt, Moriarty,  
McNett & Henry, LLP  
Bank One Center/Tower  
111 Monument Circle, Suite 3700  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-5137  
(317) 634-3456